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2026 TOWN ELECTIONS

John F. Healey - Precinct 4

January 1, 2026 . 4:00 AM — 2 min read

COURTESY PHOTO/JOHN HEALEY

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What experiences and perspectives would you contribute to Town Meeting?

I have preached, ad nauseum, to my kids (and anyone else I can corner) that:

Any problem that's created by people can be fixed by people.

My civic activism was rekindled by my late wife, back in the '90s when she recruited me to help with a "literature drop" (for a Single Payer Health Care referendum question) in a Worcester district.

Since that time:

• I was a leader in Mass-Care for Universal Health Care; (1994-2002)

• was a regional organizer for the victorious Clean Election Law; (1996-2002)

• advocated for Marriage Equality when the attempt was made to roll back our State Supreme Court's historic first-in-the-nation ruling legalizing that; and

• was also a regional organizer for the statewide Ranked Choice Voting referendum question; (2018-2020)

• since 2019 my activism has primarily been focused on preserving democracy in our country. I have been an organizer with Swing Blue Alliance: working as a letter/postcard host; phonebanking, and canvassing in NH and PA;

• most recently, I helped form the Winchester Campaign for Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), to propose this reform for the Town.

We raised our family in Webster, MA. There, I created a phonebank and GOTV effort that helped the Town approve a Warrant Article to replace a 100 year old Middle School.

We worked with a grassroots group that prevented a 1500 ton / day trash incinerator from being built in Town.

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As a Town Meeting Member, I would bring this same energy and dedication to the issues facing Winchester.

What are two or three issues facing Winchester that you think are most important and what are your positions on them?
Maintaining the quality of the public schools is the right thing to do and a smart thing. It's an investment in the Town.

Continuing to find ways to provide mixed-income housing in Town: to improve our Chapter 40B requirement; and so people who work here can live here.

What is a special challenge in your precinct that might not be faced in other precincts?
I am not yet aware of any unique issue for this Precinct.

Why should voters elect you to represent them?
I will bring the same dedication and commitment to the work of being a Town Meeting Member that I continue to bring to the "wider" problems facing our State and country. (See my first response above.)

–

Return to Town Meeting Candidate list.

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He won all eight precincts after a door-to-door campaign that emphasized direct voter contact over institutional backing.

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March 25, 2026

2026 TOWN ELECTIONS

13 YEARS OF DATA, ONE SATURDAY: Takeaways from Winchester's override vote and the races that surrounded it

Winchester News reviewed precinct-level election results from every annual town election since 2014 — 13 years of data covering turnout, ballot questions, Select Board races, School Committee contests and Planning Board results — and compared them against the March 21 preliminary numbers. The 2026 results have not yet been certified by Town

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NEWS

With override rejected, Winchester shifts from campaigning to budget planning

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Voters fill Town Meet across Winchester; f incumbents unseated

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After Winchester voters rejected an $11.5 million Proposition 2 1/2 override on Election Day, March 21, the governing question in town has shifted from persuasion to arithmetic. Select Board member Bill McGonigle, who served on the Yes for Winchester campaign, said the defeat has changed how he approaches

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The biggest shakeup came in Precinct 7, where two officeholders lost in an 11-person contest, matching Precinct 4 for the busiest race.

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March 21, 2026

Latest

NEWS

Winchester ZBA waives town regulations to move Washington/Swanton project along

Town officials have approved waivers of regulations for a residential/commercial development project at Washington and Swanton streets. The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) on March 19 approved the waivers for a 40B project at 278-292 Washington St. and 12 and 16-20 Swanton St. in a special meeting preceding a

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EVENTS

Network for Social Justice to celebrate 35th anniversary

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: The Network For Social Justice turns 35 this spring! There will be a celebration on Saturday, April 11, from 7-9:30 p.m., at the Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St., Winchester. Connect with your local friends and neighbors as

March 25, 2026

EVENTS

Winchester Community Music School presents Jazz Jam Session

The following was submitted by the Winchester Community Music School: On Saturday, March 28, join the community at Winchester Community Music School, 407 Highland Ave., for a Jazz Jam Session, an afternoon of fun, spontaneous jazz playing, beginning at 3 p.m. Instrumentalists and vocalists of all skill levels are

March 25, 2026

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